



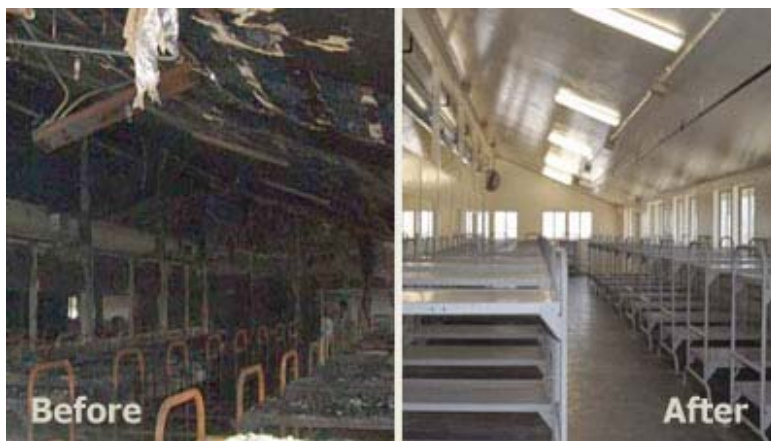
October 11, 2010

State Opens CIM West Facility Buildings Damaged in August 2009 Riot With Inmate Help

CDCR reopened eight dormitories at the California Institution for Men (CIM) in Chino that were damaged during a 2009 inmate riot.

"The tragic and senseless destruction during the riot of 2009 will not be forgotten," said CIM Warden Aref Fakhoury. "Rebuilding the damaged West facility using the Inmate Ward Labor program has contributed to a safer prison environment, all while teaching and motivating these inmates. I would like to commend everyone who took a part in this rebuilding effort."

Cost to rebuild the dormitories was reduced significantly by using inmate labor from the Inmate Ward Labor program. The program teaches inmates vocational skills that can be used to gain employment once they are released from prison. Inmates learned how to operate heavy equipment and were taught trades such as masonry, concrete mixing, drywall



Inmate labor played a critical part in the reconstruction of CIM West Yard.

installation, wall texturing, carpentry, welding and general construction techniques.

The design, construction and reactivation of the entire West facility was completed within 13 months at a cost of \$5.2 million.

Eight housing units were heavily damaged when inmates in Reception Center West dormitories rioted on the evening of Aug. 8, 2009. There were no

hostage situations, no escapes and no fatalities during the riot, but extensive repairs were necessary to return to the structures to use.

Immediately after the riot, CDCR began working to rebuild the critically needed inmate housing units. Several of the units were renovated and occupied within 10 months.

Following the riot, CDCR began moving inmates from CIM to

nearby Heman G. Stark Youth Correctional Facility, eventually converting it to a temporary reception center for adult male inmates. All inmates have since been moved from Stark.

The rebuilding effort also incorporated improved safety features.

A video of the reconstruction can be seen at www.cdcr.ca.gov

Juvenile Offenders Receive Diplomas, GED's in Ventura Ceremony

Fifty-one juvenile offenders from the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility achieved a major academic milestone October 1, when they received either a high school diploma or a GED during graduation ceremonies from Mary B. Perry High School.

They joined 116 youthful offenders who have earned diplomas or GED's from Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities in Stockton and Lone earlier this summer, bringing the year's total of graduates to 167.

"A high school education is critical for youthful offenders to build successful lives as they prepare to return to their communities," said Rachel Rios, Acting Chief Deputy Secretary of DJJ, California Department of Corrections and



Ventura YCF youth await their diplomas and GED's.

Rehabilitation. "An education opens doors for our youth to have more opportunities to turn their lives around and become productive members of society" said Rios. "Those opportunities reduce recidivism, which improves public safety."

The graduation day was also an opportunity for the youth to share their success with family members, many

of whom attended the ceremony, reflecting the importance of family involvement in the state's juvenile justice programs.

DJJ operates a high school in each of its youth correctional facilities that is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The accreditation ensures that youth receive the same education they would receive in their communities, including special education. Those standards require youth to be in classrooms for the state-mandated 240 minutes a day, 210 days a year.

The educational needs of each youth are assessed when they are committed to the DJJ. Youth are enrolled in a curriculum to receive a high school diploma or a GED.